payment of fair market price to the farmers, whose agriculture land is acquired by Government; and

(b) whether Government have issued any guidelines to the States regarding the farmers whose agriculture lands fall within the urban agglomeration area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The need for amending the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 will be examined keeping in view the recent recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanisation in this regard.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Indo-USSR Agreement

1269. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and the USSR have signed an agreement for long-term programme for cooperation in the field of agriculture; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement and to what extent the Soviet Union have agreed to provide assistance in the field of agriculture and the extent to which agricultural production is anticipated to improve after implementation of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes Sir. A long-term programme of cooperation has been signed.

(b) The Long-Term Programme of Cooperation provides for Economic and Technical cooperation for mutual benefit on the basis of economic viability through the establishment of 100 per cent export oriented units, joint ventures, technical collaboration etc. in the areas of:

(i) Soyabean processing;

(ii) Production and processing of vegetables and fruits for export;

(iii) Production of chemicals such as furfural and citric acid based on agro-industrial wastes;

(iv) Production facilities for essential storage facilities including silos for grains, oilseeds and edible oils;

(v) Production of ethyl alcohol from potatoes;

(vi) Production facilites for essential oils;

(vii) Establishment of goat and sheep breeding farms for processing of meat for export;

(viii) Establishment of modern abattoirs for export of meat;

It also provides for exchange of experts for:

(i) Evolving modalities for strengthening and upgrading the laboratories for plant quarantine services, testing insecticides and seeds;

(ii) Identifying equipment required for modernising animal disease diagnostic laboratories; and

(iii) Identifying pure lines of poultry in USSR suitable for propagation in Indian conditions.

Both the sides have agreed to promote scientific and technical cooperation by way of seminars, exchange of specialists, samples, information, research results, joint studies etc. Both the sides have agreed to formulate working plans of cooperation every two years on matters of mutual interest arising out of this Long Term Programme and also identify new areas of cooperation for implementation.

It is too early to assess the impact of this agreement on agricultural production.